

# New Graphic Novels: Highlighted Titles

Compiled by Robin Brenner, Brookline Public Library \* March 2010

## Picture books, chapter books, and more!

**Alison Dare: Little Miss Adventures** by J. Torres  
**Amelia Rules! The Tweenage Guide to Not Being Unpopular** by Jimmy Gownley  
**Binky the Space Cat** by Ashley Spires  
**Dinosaur Hour! (series)** by Hitoshi Shioya  
**G-Man: Learning to Fly** by Chris Giarrusso  
**Jellaby** by Kean Soo  
**Kit Feeny (series)** by Michael Townshend  
**Long Tail Kitty** by Lark Pien  
**Lunch Lady (series)** by Jarrett J. Krosoczka  
**Meanwhile** by Jason Shiga  
**Prime Baby** by Gene Yang  
**Salt Water Taffy (series)** by Matthew Loux \*  
**Smile** by Raina Telgemeier  
**The Storm in the Barn** by Matt Phelan  
**Wonderland** by Tommy Kovac \*

## Adventures in Learning

**Adventures in Cartooning** by James Sturm, Andrew Arnold, and Alexis Frederick-Frost  
**Manga Guide to... (series)** by various authors  
...Calculus, Databases, Electricity etc.  
**Manga Math Mysteries (series)** by Melinda Thielbar, Tintin Pantoja, and Yuko Ota \*  
**The Secret Science Alliance and the Copycat Crook** by Eleanor Davis \*

## Robots, Heists, and Fantastic Tales!

**Atomic Robo (series)** by Brian Clevenger & Scott Wegener  
**Calamity Jack** by Shannon Hale \*  
**The Crogan Adventures (series)** by Chris Schweizer \*  
Crogan's Vengeance  
Crogan's March  
**Foiled** by Jane Yolen  
**Gunnerkrigg Court (series)** by Thomas Siddell  
**Rapunzel's Revenge** by Shannon & Dean Hale & Nathan Hale  
**Smile** by Raina Telgemeier \*

## Novels Reborn, Classics Reinvented

**Bayou (series)** by Jeremy Love  
**Cirque du Freak (series)** by Darren Shan & Takahiro Arai  
**Fahrenheit 451** by Tim Hamilton  
**Maximum Ride (series)** by James Patterson & NaRae Lee  
**The Odyssey** by Gareth Hinds  
**Olympians (series)** by George O'Connor  
Zeus: King of the Gods  
Athena: Grey-Eyed Goddess  
**Pluto (series)** by Naoki Urasawa and Osamu Tezuka  
**Trickster: Native American Tales** ed. by Matt Dembicki  
**Twilight the Graphic Novel** by Stephenie Meyer and Young Kim

## A Window Into History

**365 Samurai And A Few Bowls Of Rice** by J. P. Kalonji  
**A.D. New Orleans After the Deluge** by Josh Neufeld  
**A Family Secret** by Eric Heuvel  
The Search by Eric Heuvel  
**The Photographer: Into War-Torn Afghanistan with Doctors Without Borders** by Emmanuel Guibert  
**Sons of Liberty** by Alexander Lagos, Joseph Lagos, and Steve Walker  
**Trotsky: A Graphic Biography** by Rick Geary  
**The Vietnam War: A Graphic History** by Dwight Jon Zimmerman and Wayne Vansant

## Manga: Expect the Unexpected

**After School Charisma (series)** by Kumiko Suekane  
**Children of the Sea (series)** by Daisuke Igarashi  
**COWA!** by Akira Toriyama  
**Dinosaur Hour** by Hitoshi Shioya \*  
**Happy Happy Clover** by Sayuri Tatsuyama  
**Kiichi and the Magic Books (series)** by Taka Amano  
**The Lapis Lazuli Crown (series)** by Natsuna Kawase  
**Leave it to PET!** by Kenji Sonishi \*  
**Natsume's Book of Friends (series)** by Yuki Midorikawa  
**Rin-ne (series)** by Rumiko Takahashi  
**Saturn Apartments (series)** by Hisae Iwaoka  
Ultra Maniac by  
**Sugar Sugar Rune** by Moyocca Anno\*  
**Yotsuba&! (series)** by Kiyohiko Azuma  
**Whistle!** by Daisuke Higuchi \*

## Manga Breaking the Mold

These titles, some already listed, break apart the traditional gender/age categories, and are a good representation of the diversity in manga outside the standard fare.  
**Abandon the Old in Tokyo** by Yoshihiro Tatsumi  
**Barefoot Gen** by Keiji Nakazawa  
**Buddha** by Osamu Tezuka  
**Me and the Devil Blues** by Akira Hiramoto  
**Mushishi** by Yuki Urushibara  
**not simple** by Natsume Ono  
**Oishinbo, a la carte** by Tetsu Kariya  
**solanin** by Asano Inio  
**Town of Evening Calm, Country of Cherry Blossoms** by Fumiyo Kouno  
**With the Light: Raising an Autistic Child** by Keiko Tobe

\* = great for middle school. To contact me for advice or information, please email me at [robin@noflyingnotights.com](mailto:robin@noflyingnotights.com)

## Professional Reviews

### Booklist

Graphic Novel Spotlight special issue published annually every February. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section

### Library Journal

Bi-monthly review column by Steve Raiteri and Martha Cornog. At the Library Journal website (<http://www.libraryjournal.com>), they also provide web-only weekly Graphic Novel Xpress reviews.

### Library Media Connection

"Getting Graphic" column by Michele Gorman. Reviews periodically in the review section.

### Publishers Weekly

Regularly covers manga and anime trends in short feature articles. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section.

### School Library Journal

Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section.

### Voice of Youth Advocates

"Graphically Speaking" bi-monthly review column by Kat Kan. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section, marked with an oval red "g" symbol indicating the graphic format.

## Online Reviews and Lesson Plans

### Bookshelf from Diamond Comics

<http://bookshelf.diamondcomics.com/public/>

A great start for using comics and graphic novels in schools, including articles, lesson plans, and core lists.

### Comics in the Classroom

<http://comicsintheclassroom.net/>

An excellent resource for using comics and graphic novels in the classroom— including lesson plans!

### \*Good Comics for Kids\*

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/540000654.html>

A new blog at School Library Journal devoted to comics for kids and teens, featuring commentary and reviews from librarians, parents, educators, and comics experts.

### \*Graphic Novel Reporter\*

<http://www.graphicnovelreporter.com>

From the folks behind Teenreads.com comes a strong online destination for graphic novels including interviews with everyone from creators to librarians and substantial reviews from the library and educator point of view.

### Kids Love Comics!

<http://www.kidslovecomics.com/>

A growing site from the new nonprofit organization run by Amelia Rules! creator Jimmy Gownley

### Teaching with Comics

<http://www.flummery.com/teaching/>

From one of the leaders in Maryland's Comic Book Initiative of the Maryland State Department of Education, a collection of templates and advice on teaching comics in school.

## Teaching Comics

<http://www.teachingcomics.org/>

From the National Association of Comics Arts Educators, lesson plans and resources, focused on teens and adults.

## Books

### Understanding Manga and Anime

By Robin Brenner

ISBN: 978-1-59158-332-5

This is my own recently published guide to the wide and complex world of Japanese manga and anime, for anyone curious about the medium.

### Getting Graphic! Comics for Kids

by Michele Gorman

ISBN: 978-1-58683-327-5

A clear, useful annotated bibliography of over one hundred titles for ages 4-12.

### Getting Graphic! Using Graphic Novels to Promote Literacy with Preteens and Teens

by Michele Gorman

ISBN: 1-58683-089-9

A concise and creative guide to using graphic novels to promote literacy

### The Power of Reading

ISBN: 1-59158-169-9

by Stephen Krashen

Features an amusing and illuminating chapter all about the influence of comics on vocabulary and literacy

### Graphic Novels in Your Library Media Center: A Definitive Guide

ISBN: 1-59158-142-7

by Allyson Lyga and Barry Lyga

The best one-stop guide to graphic novels in schools

### Understanding Comics

ISBN: 0-060-97625-X

### Making Comics

ISBN: 0-060-78094-0

### and Reinventing Comics

ISBN: 0-060-95350-0

by Scott McCloud

The entertaining and informative guides to the history, creation and current status of sequential art, comics, and graphic novels

### Graphic Novels: A Genre Guide to Comic Books, Manga, and More

ISBN: 978-1-59158-132-1

by Michael Pawuk

A guide to all kinds of graphic novels, a great quick reference resource

### A Librarian's Guide to Graphic Novels for Children and Tweens

ISBN: 978-1-55570-626-5

by David Serchay

A solid guide with valuable historical insight on graphic novels for young audience.

# Hot Graphic Novels: Online Resources

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## Online News

### ICv2

<http://www.icv2.com>

This pop culture industry website is the place to go for industry news especially for statistics and market information. Their excellent Retailer's Guides on both graphic novels and anime and manga providing an up-to-date look at the state of each industry, the best-selling titles, and the latest trends.

### Graphic Novels in Libraries Listserv (GNLIB-L)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GNLIB-L>

This email listserv is the place to be for any librarian working with graphic novels, whether you are just beginning a collection or are trying to decide between the two latest popular titles. Participants include interested professionals, librarians, teachers, publishers, reviewers, columnists and library staff. Go here to get speedy and informed answers for "where does X title belong in my library?" to "What's the best shonen manga?" to "Help! I've got a challenge to defend!" Please note we've changed to Yahoo! for the group home.

## Online Blogs

### Comic-Con's The Pulse

<http://www.comicon.com/pulse/>

Run by the folks who present the most popular and well-reputed Comics convention in the U.S., the Pulse follows every possible thread of comics news succinctly and promptly. A great site to keep up on what's happening in the industry, the bulk of content is interviews, features, and articles rather than reviews.

### Journalista

<http://www.tcj.com/journalista/>

The one-stop-shop for all kinds of comics and graphic novel news, from one of the most trusted, erudite journals on the industry. This one is potentially not safe for work, as blogger Dirk Deppey covers all manner of comics, but it's always a fascinating read.

### Mangablog

<http://www.mangablog.net>

Brigid Alverson's site highlights the discussions and news items for any manga fan, acting as a touchstone site connecting all of the other online chatters together.

### Precocious Curmudgeon

<http://precur.blogspot.com/>

David Welsh, a columnist for The Comics Reporter, writes with humor and insight on the world of comics, manga and fandom.

## Online Manga Sites

### IKKI (VIZ):

<http://www.sigikki.com>

### Shonen Sunday (VIZ):

<http://www.shonensunday.com>

## Publisher Websites

**Aurora:** <http://www.aurora-publishing.com/>

**Dark Horse:** <http://www.darkhorse.com/>

**DC Comics:** <http://www.dccomics.com>

**Del Rey Manga:** <http://www.randomhouse.com/delyrey/manga>

**Digital Manga:** <http://www.emanga.com>

**Drawn & Quarterly:** <http://www.drawnandquarterly.com>

**Fanfare/Ponent Mon:** <http://www.ponentmon.com>

**Fantagraphics:** <http://www.fantagraphics.com>

**First Second:** <http://www.firstsecondbooks.com/>

**Go Comi! Manga:** <http://www.gocomi.com>

**Graphix:** <http://www.scholastic.com/graphix/>

**Hyperion:** <http://www.hyperionbooksforchildren.com/>

**IDW Publishing:** <http://www.idwpublishing.com>

**Image Comics:** <http://www.imagecomics.com>

**Marvel:** <http://www.marvel.com>

**NBM:** <http://www.nbmpub.com>

**Netcomics:** <http://www.netcomics.com>

**Oni Press:** <http://www.onipress.com>

**Pantheon:** <http://www.randomhouse.com/pantheon/graphicnovels>

**Red 5 Comics:** <http://www.red5comics.com/>

**Tokyopop:** <http://www.tokyopop.com>

**Toon Books:** <http://www.toon-books.com/>

**Top Shelf:** <http://www.topshelfcomix.com>

**Vertical:** <http://www.vertical-inc.com>

**VIZ Media:** <http://www.viz.com>

**Yen Press:** <http://www.yenpress.com>

## Publisher Age Ratings

### CMX (DC Comics):

<http://www.dccomics.com/cm/?action=about>

### Del Rey Manga:

<http://www.randomhouse.com/delrey/manga/images/RatingsPage.pdf>

### Marvel:

<http://www.marvel.com/catalog/ratings.htm>

### Oni Press:

[http://www.onipress.com/ratings\\_fa.php](http://www.onipress.com/ratings_fa.php)

### Tokyopop:

<http://www.tokyopop.com/corporate/booksellers/879>

### Yen Press:

[http://yenpress.us/?page\\_id=23](http://yenpress.us/?page_id=23)